

Message Text

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61

ORIGIN ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 OES-06 CIAE-00

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DRAFTED BY ERDA - JKRAZ:LLB

APPROVED BY EB/ITP/EWT - RBWRIGHT

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R 301445Z JUL 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE STATE 189055

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ESTC, COCOM, UR

SUBJECT: PROPOSED VISIT OF U.S. NC MACHINE TOOL TEAM

REFERENCE: A) STATE 72463, B) MOSCOW 4589

1. FOLLOWING RECEIPT OF REFTTEL (B), MEYER OF COMMERCE AND KRATZ OF ERDA MET WITH MALAKOFF AND MAKAROV, TRADE REPRESENTATIVES OF USSR HEADQUARTERED IN WASHINGTON, D.C., AND GAVE THEM U.S. RESPONSE AS CLEARED WITH EMBASSY IN REFTTEL (A). IT WILL BE RECALLED THAT THE U.S. RESPONSE WAS A COUNTEROFFER TO EARLIER SOVIET OFFER TO HAVE U.S. TEAM VISIT ONLY FOUR SOVIET NC FACILITIES. SINCE U.S. BELIEVED VISIT WOULD NOT BE MUTUALLY PROFITABLE TO ONLY FOUR FACILITIES, U.S. COUNTEROFFER SUGGESTED OTHER KNOWN NC FACILITIES BUT DID NOT INCLUDE FACILITIES IN CLOSED AREAS OF SOVIET UNION. WHILE SOVIET REPRESENTATIVES MADE NO COMMITMENT AT THAT TIME, MALAKOFF-ASKED WHEN U.S. TEAM WOULD BE PREPARED TO MAKE TRIP. WE RESPONDED THAT JULY 1976 WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE.

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2. SUBSEQUENTLY, WE HEARD INFORMALLY FROM REPRESENTATIVES OF U.S. NATIONAL MACHINE TOOL BUILDERS ASSOCIATION (NMTBA) AND U.S. INDUSTRY THAT SOVIETS HAD COOLED TO IDEA OF (A) HAVING U.S. NC TEAM VISIT USSR, AND (B) PURCHASING NC MACHINE TOOLS FROM U.S. SUPPLIERS. SINCE APRIL MEETING

WITH SOVIET TRADE REPRESENTATIVES, WE HAVE HAD NO WORD FROM SOVIETS ON VISIT.

3. SINCE USG STILL INTERESTED IN HAVING NC TEAM VISIT SOVIET UNION, WE WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY EFFORTS IN ATTEMPTING TO ASCERTAIN IF SOVIETS INTEND TO RESPOND TO U.S. COUNTEROFFER OF LAST APRIL, AND IF SOME MUTUALLY AGREEABLE VISIT CAN BE ARRANGED IN NEAR FUTURE. SINCE SOME TEAM MEMBERS WILL BE IN EUROPE ON OTHER BUSINESS LATTER HALF OF OCTOBER, LATE SEPTEMBER/EARLY OCTOBER OR LATE OCTOBER/EARLY NOVEMBER WOULD BE CONVENIENT TIME FOR U.S. TEAM TO MAKE VISIT. KISSINGER

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